

# BLACKTOBER

Zine 2022

Hosted and curated by  
TheActualCel

Official Blacktober  
Graphics by AppleWifey

# WHAT IS

blackcardmembers x céli·pianta



**#Blacktober is an October month-long exclusive event where Black and Mixed Black creators (regardless of their pigment) are celebrated and uplifted with their creative skill of choice. Be it visual art, redraws, cosplay, writing, streaming, and more! A prompt list is provided to go off of, but anyone can make their own list. The event is strictly for Black and Mixed Black creators.**

**Also, October is Black History Month in some parts of the diaspora!**

This event is partnerly organized by Céli/@pianta\_, Cel/TheActualCel and the Black Card Member Community /@blackcardmems

# #BLACKTOBER 2022

## OFFICIAL PROMPT LIST

- |                     |                         |                              |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>1. Welcome</b>   | <b>11. Pattern</b>      | <b>21. Drink</b>             |
| <b>2. Cozy</b>      | <b>12. Water</b>        | <b>22. Cryptid</b>           |
| <b>3. Vibrant</b>   | <b>13. Ghost</b>        | <b>23. Fire</b>              |
| <b>4. Witch</b>     | <b>14. Mysterious</b>   | <b>24. Trick</b>             |
| <b>5. Earth</b>     | <b>15. Freedom</b>      | <b>25. Treat</b>             |
| <b>6. Enchanted</b> | <b>16. Love</b>         | <b>26. Reimagined</b>        |
| <b>7. Treasure</b>  | <b>17. Galaxy/Stars</b> | <b>27. Zodiac</b>            |
| <b>8. Fashion</b>   | <b>18. Mermaid</b>      | <b>28. Purple &amp; Gold</b> |
| <b>9. Light</b>     | <b>19. Crown</b>        | <b>29. Books/Comics</b>      |
| <b>10. Air</b>      | <b>20. Indie Game</b>   | <b>30. Night</b>             |
|                     |                         | <b>31. Mischief</b>          |

# **THE PURPOSE OF THE #BLACKTOBER ZINE**

**This zine recaps the event for this year! Overall to enjoy all the content we created together!**

**Below you will find pieces of various creators and their statements on what #Blacktober meant to them. The @ to their social media (Twitter, Instagram, Tumblr, etc) is provided as well above their statements.**

**Please note that all words are from each individual artists perspective. No words have been altered or changed for this zine.**



**@LURRKINGLY**

To me, participating in #Blacktober is an act of love and celebration, both within myself and with other Black creators. The Black artist community on Twitter is wonderful and ever-inspiring! <3



@SQUIDTHEMAYO

This event was a nice way to get myself pumped up to do art! and i was able to find a lot more black artists, something i wouldn't usually be able to do.



@ROOKIEDRAWS\_

The idea that my art can  
be used to create a safe  
space for black  
cosplayers, artists  
makes me want to  
continue to create.  
Nothing else makes me  
happy like knowing my  
art can shape  
someone's future.



@CLOUDYPEPSI

This event meant a lot to me as it gave me more determination to actually finish an art piece and continue it with more after. As well excitement, as I got to see new artist and my favs from last year



@ETHJAYY

Blacktober has always been a fun way for me to express myself. It's great seeing how I've improved every year. I also love seeing others' work and being introduced to other black creatives.



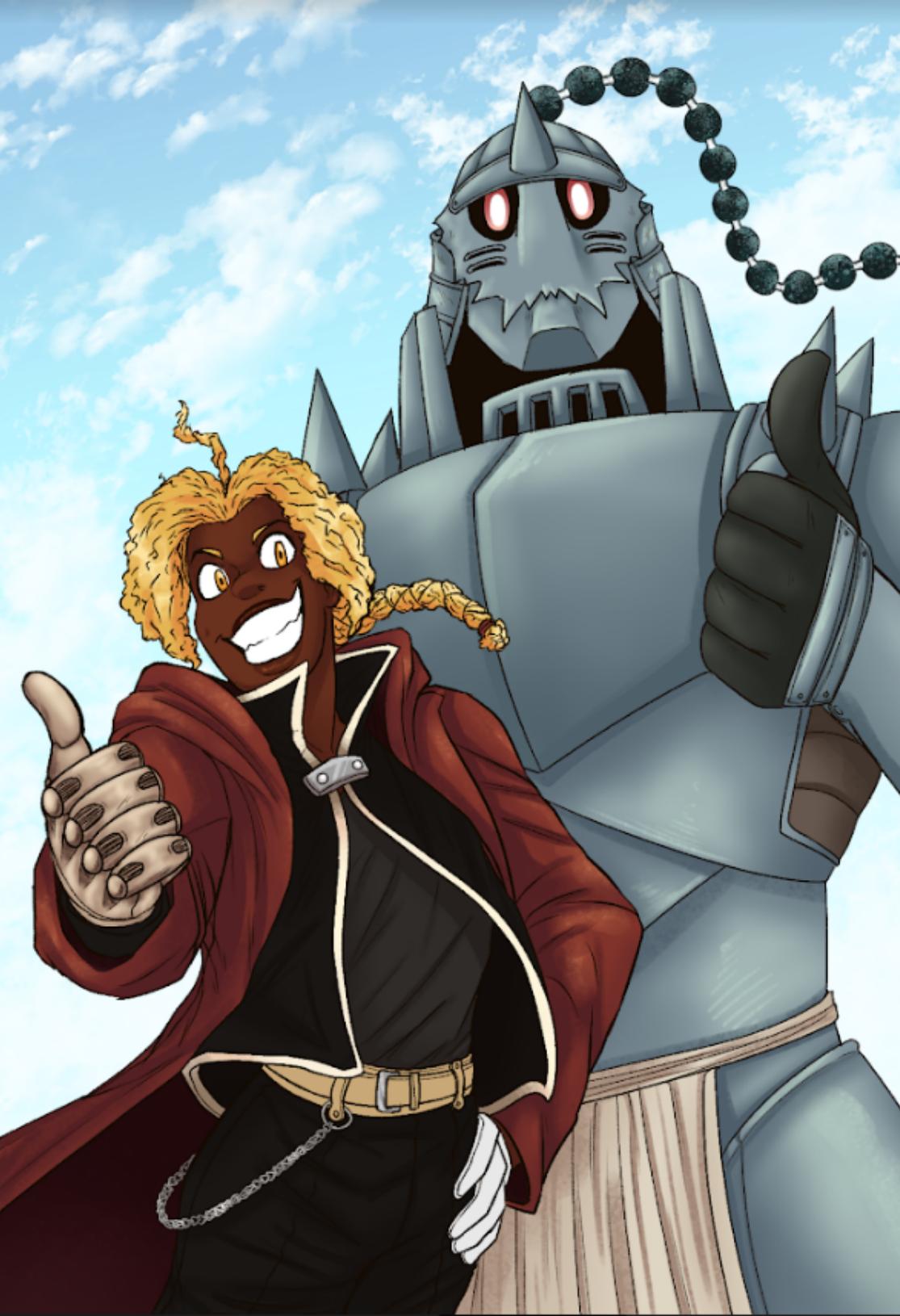
@MICHAEL\_XIV

Blacktober is a great avenue for representation. For me personally, I'm happy seeing the amount of creativity that comes with the hashtag.



@BEPPUCCINO

It's given me a chance  
to express myself  
through my  
characters and  
characters I like in a  
space where others  
understand and  
won't push me out.



**@JASMINEOSIMONE**

The creativity and fresh life people are able to give these characters is amazing. The design work put into these entries are top-notch.

Take notes!

Tilly had eight pairs of saddle shoes: one for each color of the rainbow, as well as a black-and-white pair. She put the monochrome pair on and stood in front of the full-length mirror on the other side of her room. When she'd attempted to kill Dimitri she'd let her excitement and nerves get the best of her, but not this time. She had her head on straight, and a smart outfit to match.

From top to bottom, her bright hair had been pulled into a high bun, tied with a sheer gray bandana and her bangs were rolled into a neat curl. She was wearing a long, black circle skirt that flared out magnificently when she spun around, and a matching crop top that made her hips look that much bigger, just the way she (and Katsura) liked it. To top it off, she slid on a pair of round black sunglasses with deeply tinted lenses. The only item that didn't fit her retro get-up was the black duffel bag she was holding. Usually she wore outfits that were more colorful, but she had to blend in with the moonless night. Once she was done admiring herself, she rolled out and began searching for the perfect victim.

Tilly drove to the local gym, taking small one-way streets to avoid witnesses. She was no doctor, but Katsura needed plenty of protein. Muscular people were more likely to have that, right? Someone who was much stronger than her might be tougher to kill, but she was prepared.

It was just after 10:00PM when she arrived, so the gym had just closed. Tilly parked on the side of the road next to the pocket of woods bordering the gym and began trekking through it, peeking through the foliage so she could pick out a target. She spotted a pair of patrons walking down the gym's steps and into the parking lot: a stocky figure with a frohawk and a red gym bag, and a tall, lithe woman with her hair tied back in a high ponytail. They were wrapping up a conversation, and the stocky person waved the woman goodbye and hopped onto a bike next to the employee parking area. The lithe woman wandered to the back of the building, and Tilly tiptoed through the woods to follow her. She looked big enough to last Katsura for a couple of weeks, perhaps even more.

The woman leaned on the wall next to a back entrance, under a light that shone icy blue. She took a pack of cigarettes out of her coat pocket and lit one. Just a few minutes ago, she'd looked happy, but now she seemed to be on the verge of tears. Tilly was struck by a pang of excitement, and she held her hand over her heart. She could comfort the woman to make her let her guard down. If she got lucky enough, there wouldn't even be a struggle. She daintily stepped out of the woods and strode up to the woman, smiling sweetly at her. The woman looked startled, and she dropped her cigarette and hastily stamped it out.

"What are you doing here?" She sounded jumpy, the same way Tilly did when she was badly trying to hide something.

Tilly employed the voice that her mother used whenever she invited friends over for supper club. She used to bring out fancy trays adorned with delectable food and amuse everyone with her chipper voice and old-fashioned sense of humor. "I was just taking a walk. There's a path in those woods that's really relaxing to walk down, even at night. But forget about me — what's got you troubled?"

"It's none of your business. I don't even know you." The woman crossed her arms and stood up, ready to leave.

# @MALLTHOLOGIST

Blacktober means challenging myself to come up with fun and creative ways to showcase my identities, sense of humor and opinions through my writing.



@GIGIDRAWZ

I love #Blacktober because every year I get to discover dope black artists. Everyone's art is gorgeous and I love to see my fave anime characters reimagined and all the cool OCs!



**@KALEES.ETERNITY**

What blacktober means to me is being able to have someone see my art, and think to themselves "hey, that looks like me!".



@HALOSTRWBERRI

Blacktober holds a special place in my heart. Being able to watch black artists come together each year and showcase their work is always an incredible feeling. Here's to next year!



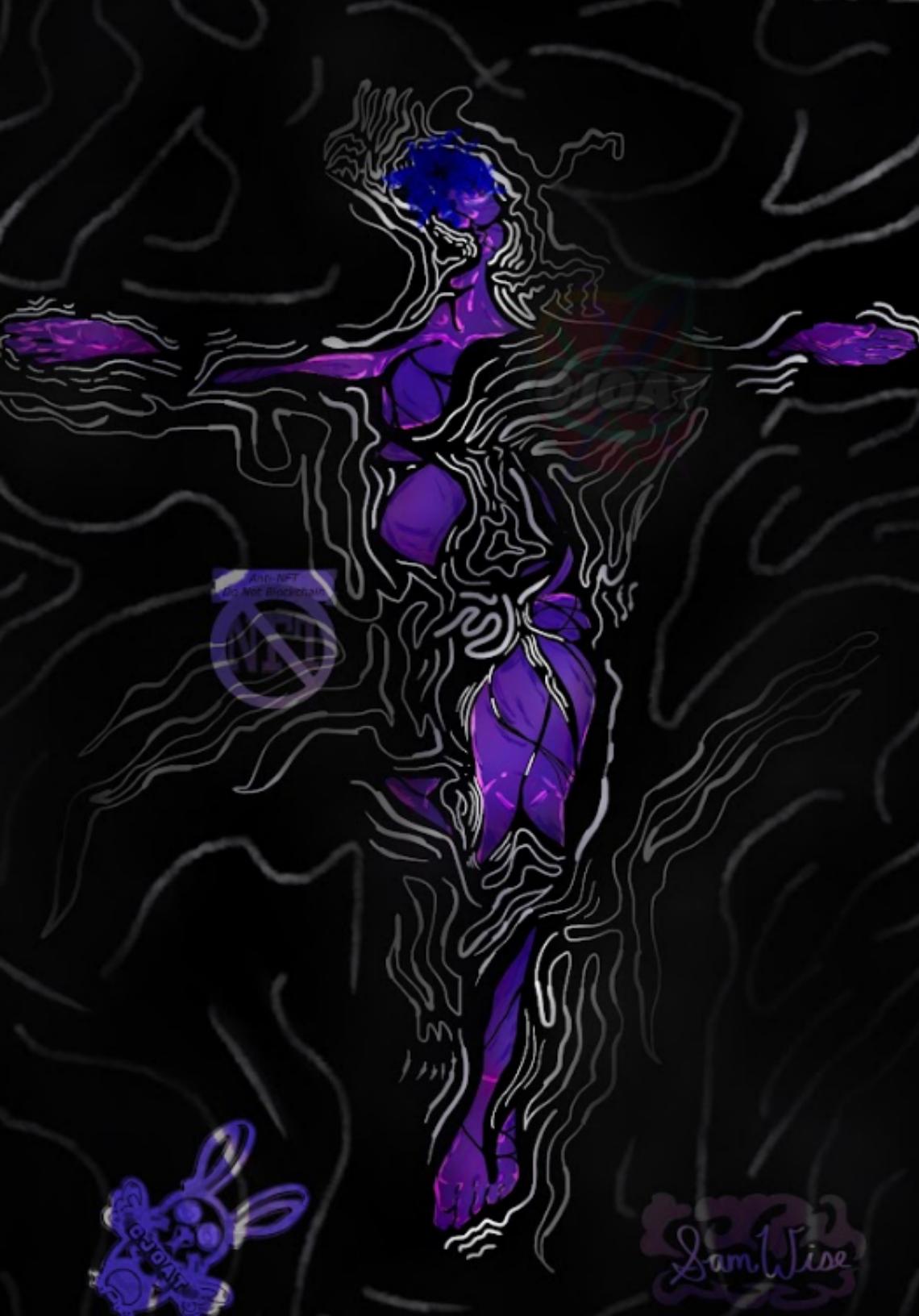
@CHEZZYBEEZ

To me, blacktober means that there's more recognition and appreciation for black creators and the work that we do.



@BUNNY\_OKU

To me blacktober is a time where black artists can more greatly share their artwork within the art community and where we can show how we can interpret a design in our own way.



@SAMSART16

Blacktober 2022 was a difficult year for me, as I did not create as many pieces this time. However, I made pieces full of meaning, making me happy. Putting me first has been the best lesson to learn.



@SUBAJELLY

Blacktober has been a fun way to find community. Having a hashtag like #Blacktober and #Drawingwhileblack has made it easier to find creatives like me, which makes the art world feel less lonely



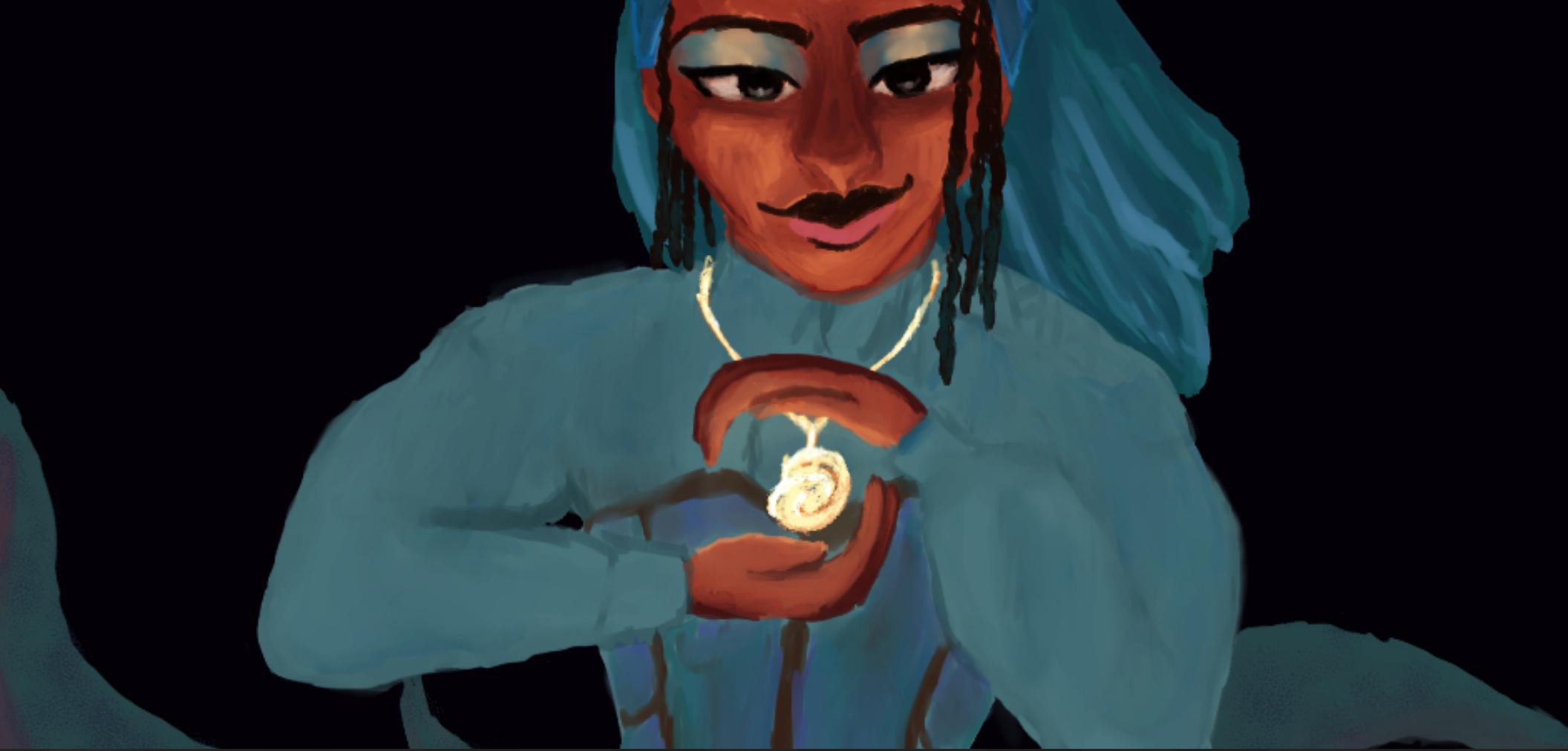
@ASAPFUGO

blacktober has definitely allowed me to find more black artists to interact with especially as a black artist myself and twitter mainly only supporting non black artists.



**@HITACHINSGIRL**

#Blacktober always manages to pick me up from my artistic slump and remind me why I love to create. As a small artist, sharing and seeing other works in the tag never fail to make me feel seen ♡



@T3A\_FLO

Because of Blacktober, I've been able to celebrate blackness in media and take note of the moments blackness has been portrayed in a positive light.



@ANNIE-MANGA

This event was very fun & exciting; I found so many Black creators through this event, but I got to create & share my work and so many others loved & appreciated it as much as I enjoyed creating them!



@ARTGIRL\_MOMO

Blacktober is a "fill the gap" kind of event that allows Black creators to show their art style via popular IPs and even bring light to their original characters, stories, and works.



@GOLDGAUNTL3T

Blacktober helped me receive positive attention from many other content creators, and it also allowed me to reflect on how much I've been able to improve on my digital art over the past two years.



@SURENLICIOUS

Blacktober let's us see a world in where we can feel represented by media in all shape and form, without it being a one-time event but rather the norm. :)



**@ARTISTIANA\_THEARTIST**

This blacktober was really fun for me because this was my second time ever participating more. I've always wanted to participate but I couldn't find the time. So I'm proud of myself for showing my art



@P\_CREATES

Blacktober has always been a celebration to me. And expression of creativity, individuality, and representation. It's also a chance to grow and learn from other creatives.

© Phoenix C.



**@SOULOFEBONY**

I love Blacktober because I get to share my work and connect with other artists! There are so many amazing black creatives out there and I love seeing everyone's work!



**@FROZEN\_OVER**

For me, blacktober has helped me grow my skills as an artist exponentially and allowed me to connect with an amazing group of friends.



@MOBISSIMO

I look forward to Blacktober every year! It feels so great to celebrate my blackness by creating better representation for black people, whether it be reimaged characters or showing off my OCs!



@IGNITEDQUILS

Blacktober gives us  
black people an  
opportunity to  
represent who we are.  
Considering we've been  
shamed and not  
represented well, I felt  
like doing this made me  
feel proud being  
African-American.



@JDTCREATES

Almost a year ago, I played DnD for the 1st time with my friend's group and made a black Lotusden Halfling Monk to play as. #Blacktober has inspired me to visualize my character and his adventures.



@COSMICAMAZN

Being a part of Blacktober has been a wonderful journey from the very beginning. It's really nice to see new people participating every year and seeing young black artists celebrating our features.



**@VIBRANTFOXART**

Blacktober has been an opportunity to embrace myself as a black person and my artistry and share both of those while also giving a glimpse into my creative world through my ocs and their stories



**@POGOCONDOMPACk**

What blacktober meant to me was that I got to be more creative and felt more connected to my art than I usually am due to me drawing outside my race and culture a lot.



**@SYDNEYGOUAMBA**

Blacktober's always been a chance for me to focus on reinventing characters so that they look more familiar to people who grew up like me and a way for me to focus on the enjoyable side of making art.



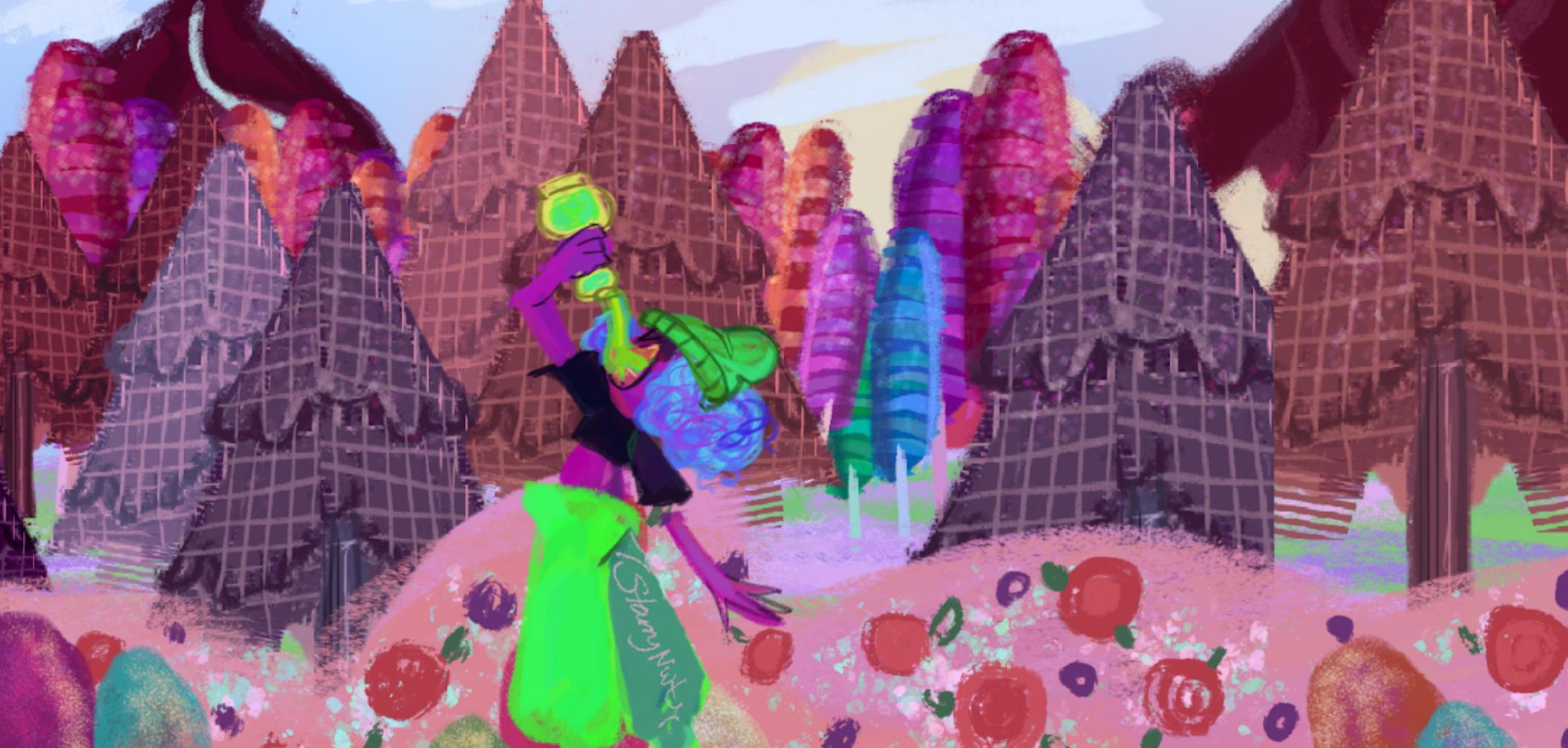
@ERINMCDOWELLART

To me, Blacktober means an entire month of celebrating black creators and characters whether it's through fanart or original art.



@MARYAH\_ART

To me Blacktober means togetherness. It's a fun opportunity to let the black community experience artwork that was created specifically for them, with their skin color and natural hair in mind!



**@STARRYNWT**

I get to see so many more artists I didn't know get more traction on their art/medium. I found out there was a lot more cosplayers and streamers I can support this year!!



**@YEARNINGBOO**

blacktober means a lot to me. i got to meet a lot of nice artists in the community, see characters that looked just like me, and i felt so seen and represented.



**@AAKHSEBYAKS**

Blacktober has meant a lot to me as a way to experiment and try some new stuff with my art and I love it!



**@PASTELPERYTON**

Blacktober is a super cool opportunity to discover so many really cool + creative black artists and support each other as a community ! <3



@TIANAKOOPA

This was my second time participating and I had so much fun again! I loved seeing everyone's works and I can't wait for next year!



@\_XAYMACA

Blacktober is the time of year when I'm able to see many talented black artists showcase their work. It allows for a sense of unity in the black artist community as we support one another in our art.



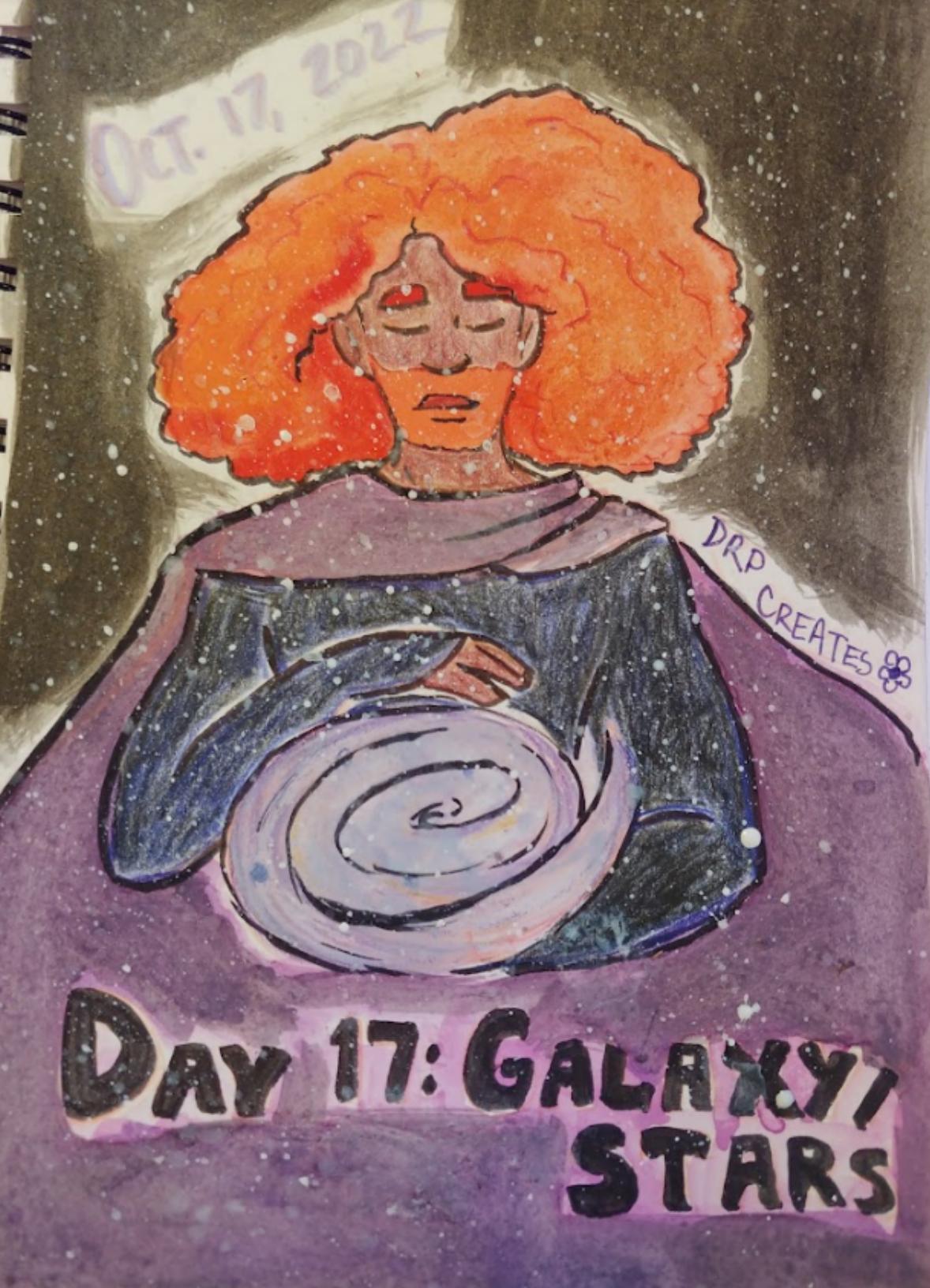
@XEEBSS

Seeing everyone's  
different interpretations  
of characters is so fun!  
They're all so creative  
and seeing them never  
gets old!

**@DRPCREATE\$**

This year I leaned on a theme that was special for me & drew a black redhead for every prompt. Growing up I had lot of insecurities with my skin & hair color so this event has been a gift to my past.

**DAY 17: GALAXY /  
STARS**





@ARS\_TEMPOR

This is the first art challenge I've ever completed and seeing so many other black artists have inspired me to shoot my shot! This was amazing!



**@MIAGIF**

For me Blacktober lets black artists show what they can create when we are involved in design. May it be original characters, cosplays, reimaginings, etc. black artists always show up and show out!



**@KERAUNICTONIC**

It's always a blast to see the creativity in the community. It further propels my inspiration from just the month of October to the rest of the year!



**@ZEPHANIAHCOMICS**

I watched Blacktober from the sidelines in 2021. I promised myself that I would post this year. While the hits weren't anything to write home about, I succeeded because I kept a self-made promise.



@MORG\_CITY

Blacktober is the one drawing event I always look forward to. I love seeing the work of other creators, while having fun creating my own black centric art.



@DREANGELOART

Happy to be apart of  
this event again, love  
seeing everyone's art  
as usual and feeling  
inspired each time.  
Can't wait for the next  
one!



**@JOEVERLASTING**

Even though I was not able to participate as much as last year, I still had fun drawing what I could and seeing what others made! I love finding other black artists and seeing their work.



@CARMAHNM\_ART

I love sharing and discovering art during #Blacktober! I look forward to October every year because of this event. Thanks to everyone involved in making it so great!

# BAD GIRL



@THATONENEGRAUX

It allows me to put a spin on popular characters. I always put a bit of myself into each OC and redesign, because, naturally, I want to feel seen somehow.



Alien Hunk

@ALIENHUNKART

Blacktober has been a great way for me to not only get my work out there more, but to see the wonderful creations of others within this community!



@YUKIANGEL51

Blacktober, to me, means growing in your craft to appreciate and uplift POC. I realized that this year I was able to truly express myself in ways that I don't think past me would have done!



**@OUTADISIBRUH**

I just wanted to partake in an event that I knew would let me interact a lot with people of my race. I like doing these events cause it gives me a sense of community and fellowship.



**@UNRULY\_KNIGHT**

Blacktober is easily my favorite art event of the year. I always look forward to seeing my friends and peers new takes on things, and the skills they've curated over the year. Us making art for us <3.



@CA.TOOONS

Blacktober has been a helpful and revitalizing challenge for me. My creativity was pushed to new limits and I was constantly inspired by the incredible work other black artists shared as well.



@RINGTHABELL\_

It's great to have a time  
and space for Black  
creatives to be  
prioritized and have  
their works boosted. I  
love being able to  
contribute my art and  
see the works of such  
talented people



@LEXIIRAH

This event has been a wonderful showcase of black talent that has allowed many to see the creativity in our community. Despite the challenges that come with art challenges, it was really fun!



@NATURAL.SEASONS

To me, #Blacktober meant community and visibility. This has been the third year in a row that I participated in Blacktober, and I feel like my art has improved since then.



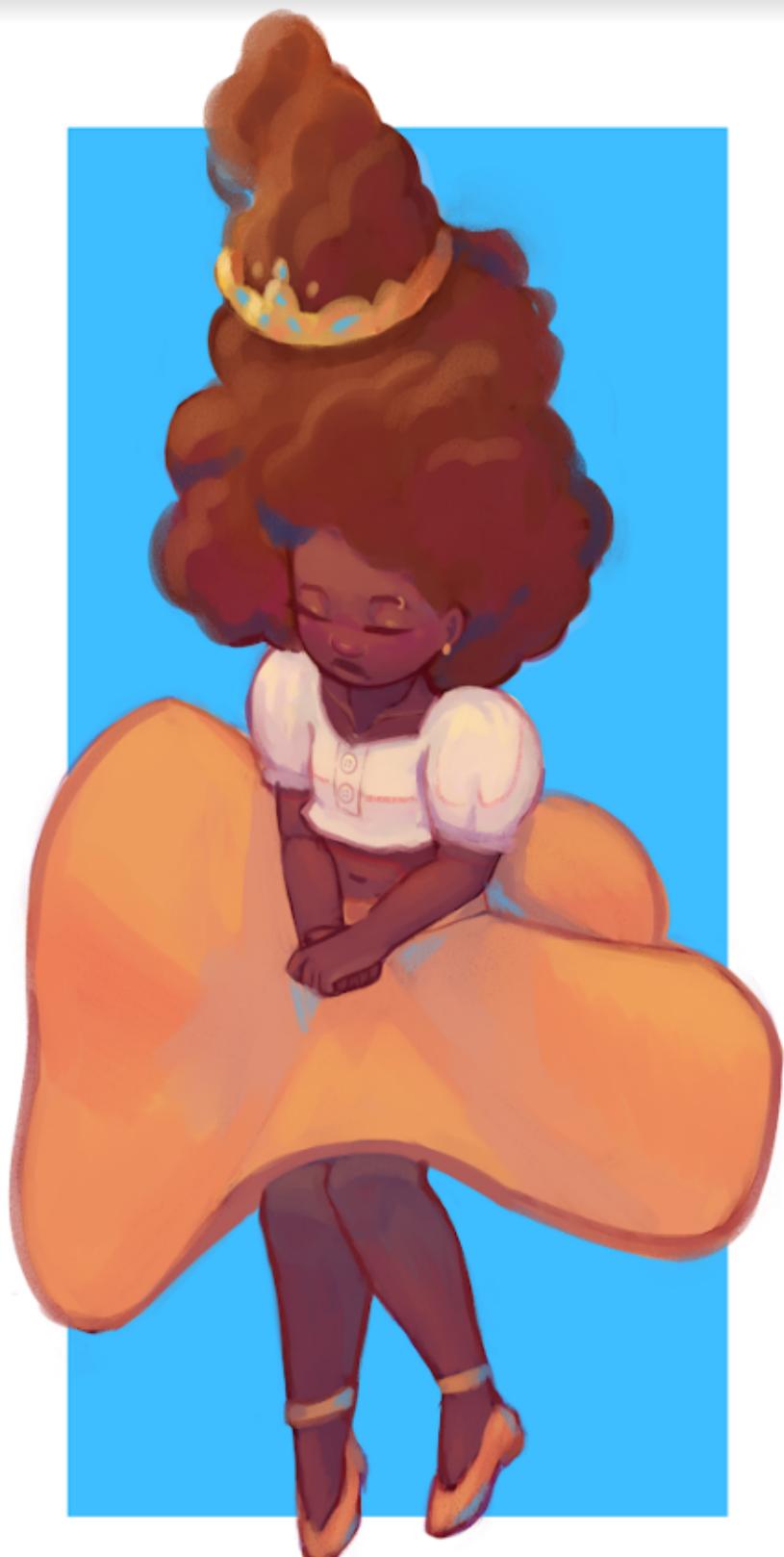
**@PANAPEEPS**

blacktober was such a fun event! being able to celebrate blackness with my ocs helped me get over my anxieties in terms of presenting my ideas. (+ seeing all the sick art was mega inspiring!)



**@DEFINICIOUS**

Although I was not as active creating new pieces this year, Blacktober has always been a space to see new interpretations of characters I am fond of! I love the creativity & care put into each work!!



@INDRAW\_ART

Blacktober was fun! I never took part in any 1 month long challenges, so this was very different compared to me just drawing a bit here and there haha. I wanted to use this to practice my art as well!



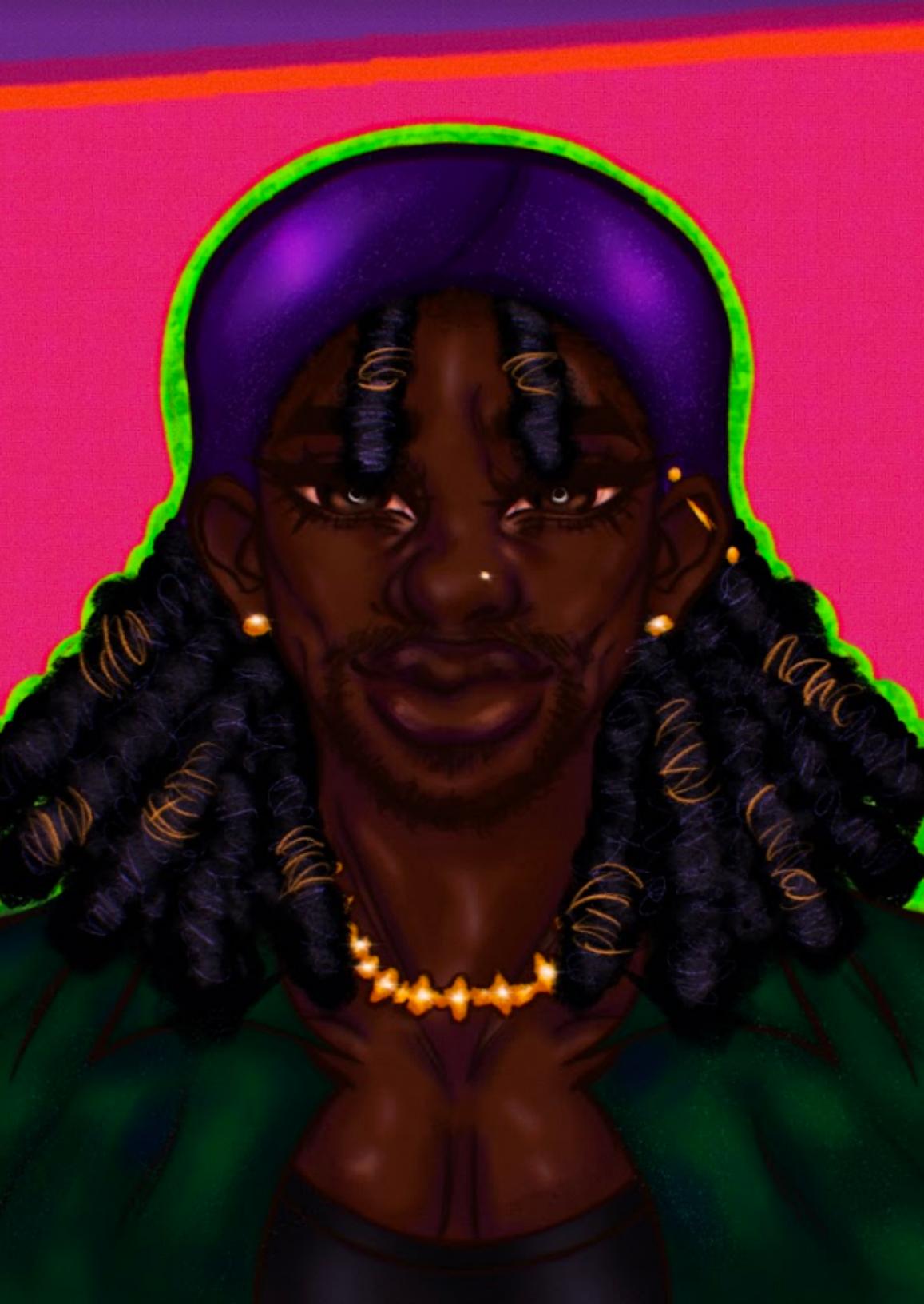
**@ANGELHEART2015**

This Blacktober is about rising from the ashes. I haven't drawn anything since May of this year due to mental/life struggles. Blacktober brought me out of my art drought and I feel like myself again!



@J\_ARTS\_S

There's so much hidden talent the world has yet to acknowledge, which is why Blacktober, an event that highlights Black artists and helps us spread our work, is so important and encouraging!



@BECALMDOART

Truly love seeing black  
folks who are in all  
outlets come together  
using our creativity to  
make such a amazing  
community!



# CLAWTHORNE

## FLO RIST

@BI4BIRYMIN

I've definitely improved my art skills since the last time I participated in blacktober.



**@TAZARATERUMI**

This event means connecting with other creators of the African Diaspora during a time of celebration and unity! It allows for me to share my works with like minded individuals in my own community!



@ICONOGRAFI

This is a time of celebrating and sharing our creativity. I want to spotlight our skin tone and size inclusive tights crowdfund, as I hope this'll have a positive impact on the alt fashion community!



**@DANGEROUSFLAIR**

I really enjoyed seeing  
others' works and  
discovering more artists  
to support.



@LYNNALEXUSS

i really enjoy blacktober  
despite not being able  
to contribute a lot due  
to art block. It makes  
me feel really good to  
see all the creative  
people in the  
community showing off  
their amazing talents!



**@DINES\_VISUAL**

Once again we gather for a celebration of black creativity as we take the time to show off our imaginations and bond as a community through art.

# THANK YOU!

SEE YOU IN 2023!

@THEACTUALCEL

@PIANTA\_

